

Assaulted from within and without, the prognosis for an ailing university health service looks bleak. Threats of budget cuts for the past year have kept its continued existence in question since an ad hoc committee to investigate the health service was established under the the auspices of the GFC in the fall of last year.

Now internal dissension and the dismissal or resignation of most of the service's nursing staff threaten to leave the service weakened by inexperienced staff during the crucial period at the first of the year when student patterns of use of the clinic will be set.

Of a full-time and part-time nursing staff of 15 to 20 last year, only seven were offered positions for the coming year; five of them

subsequently declined to accept the new positions under new job descriptions which one former member of the nursing staff termed "impossible tasks . . . most unrealistic."

She described the new positions as entailing the staff member's previous duties "plus the jobs of two or three other people."

An informed source said that two of the staff doctors have also submitted their resignations and a number of others are considering the move because of the shortage of nursing support.

Michael Ball, director of the health service, described the cuts as 'a "staff reorganization," involving the "amalgamation of some duties."

"What we have done is what a lot of hospitals have done over the

# Student health sick

past few years—if there is a function that can be done by a nursing aide we make use of them," Ball commented. The health facility's kitchen has also been closed and four cooks fired.

Contacted two weeks after the cuts had begun, Stanley Greenhill, professor and chairman of community medicine and a member of the university health service committee, said that he had understood that the service was expected to "make economies in line with those being made elsewhere in the University," but had not been notified as to the extent of staff cuts.

F.B. Cookson, a student health physician and a member of the GFC executive protested in a meeting of the executive that the Board of Governors acted before the Joint Committee to Review the Role and Future Development of the University Health Service had even completed its deliberations.

"As I see it," Cookson said in a letter to the executive, "the Board of Governors is shifting the decision as to whether the University Health Service should continue from the reasoned discussion of the Joint Committee and a similar debate by GFC to a simple

*continued on p. 2*

## the gateway

Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1972

Edmonton, Alberta vol. 63 no. 1

## Registration plan shelved

A recent Gateway survey of seven Canadian Universities comparable in size to the University of Alberta has revealed that only the U of A and UBC have no form of advance registration.

The Universities of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), Manitoba, Waterloo and Western Ontario, and McGill and Sir George Williams Universities all employ some form of summer registrations.

Plans to convert Alberta's annual fall marathon to a summer mail registration were shelved in June when funds for the development of such a system were not available for implementation in the 1973-74 session.

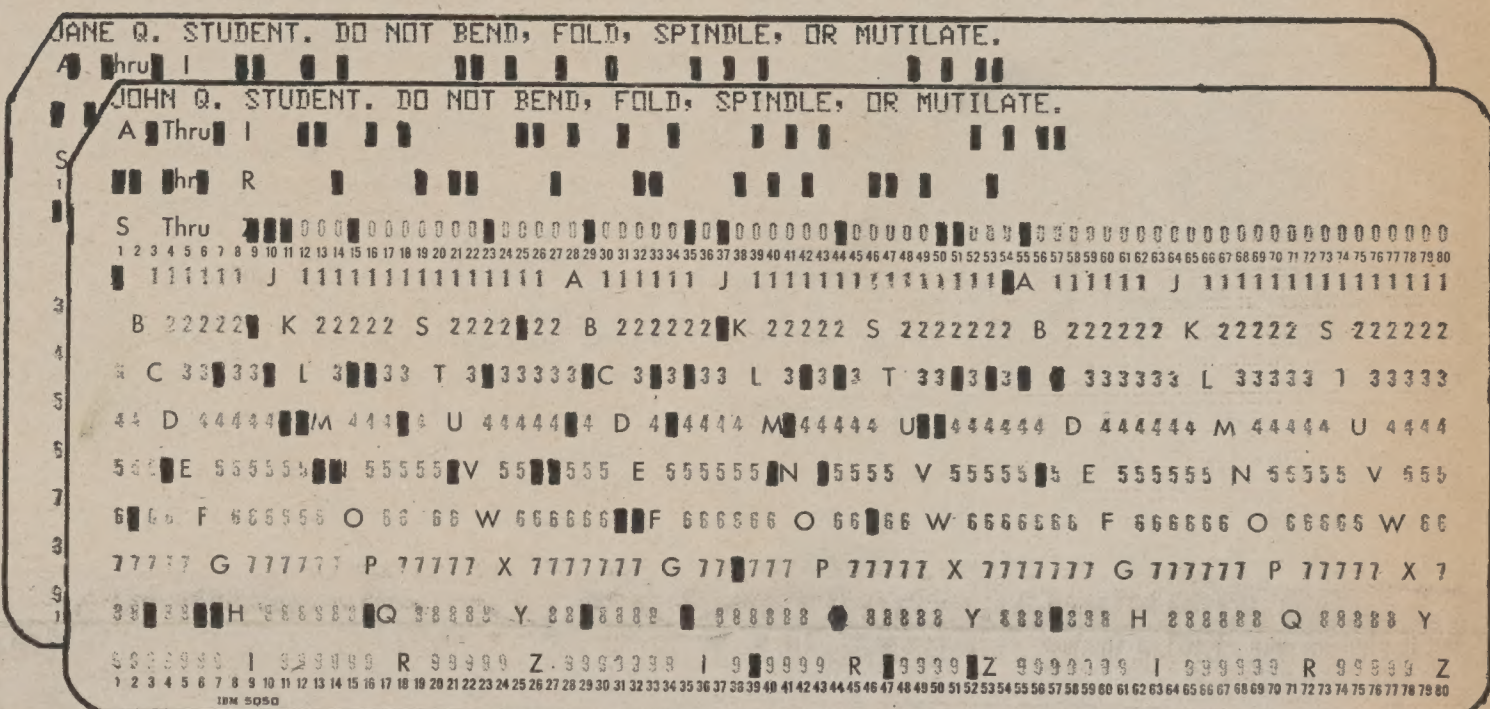
After some two years of study and consultation with students, administrators and representatives of the registrar's office, the course registration procedures committee and the timetable policy committee of General Faculties Council recommended that "because there seemed to be no unanimity of opinion that advance registration will meet the objectives originally established, that the proposal be shelved for the time being." No student representative attended the meeting, at which the recommendation was approved.

representative Patrick Delaney asked that final deliberation on the committees' proposal be deferred until

At the last meeting of the GFC executive, however, SU students returned to campus and could study the matter.

Under the scheme, students would have been mailed time tables, registration information, and forms with their final marks in May and June. Faculties and departments would have been responsible for making staff members available to students wanting academic counselling over the summer.

Once registration forms had been returned in early August, the computer would take over tasks now requiring student leg-work in Part III



of registration: section assignment and preparation of class lists.

Those students who had not registered in advance would have been required to undergo a scaled-down version of fall registration, choosing courses and sections not already filled by pre-registered students.

Briefs in opposition of the plan came from the faculty of business administration and commerce, faculty of graduate studies and research, and the department of germanic languages. Reasons cited were inconveniences caused in the administration of such a system, questions as to the usefulness of pre-registration information in planning departmental requirements and most often, the projected cost to effect the changeover of \$70,000.00

Among supporters of the proposal were the faculty of pharmacy, faculty of agriculture, faculty of engineering, and the school raised by opponents, was nearly 100%. of household economics. The faculty of education, while more enthusiastic about March advance registration, did not oppose the June-July proposal.

Minutes of the joint committee meeting which axed the proposal record that "the committees expressed interest in student opinion of the plan, but were unable to propose a satisfactory method of securing a valid opinion."

The Gateway survey of registrars found a number of campuses at which pre-registration had received strong student support.

University of Western Ontario

associate registrar Peter Suttie reported that student support "swung the balance in favour" of the adoption of an advance registration scheme at that school last year. By late August student participation in the summer registration, one of the objections raised by opponents, was nearing 100%.

He reported that faculty response had also been good and that better counselling had resulted from the change over.

In the several years Manitoba has used advance registration, the number of students taking advantage of the system has increased from 8,700 to over 10,100 this year, over 2/3 of the expected enrollment according to registrar B.C. Browning.

Only UBC registrar J. Parnall mentioned student resistance to advance registration. "We have decided to stop short of complete mechanization. We're NOT going to go that far," he emphasized, adding "neither faculty nor students want this." A desire to maintain "freedom of choice" was the explanation given for opposition.

For its preliminary report, the GFC joint committee on advance registration interviewed twenty-five students, among them students' council members, GFC representatives and several first-year students.

Student comments on the present system were critical of "excessive walking and long delays waiting for approval of any necessary changes," the report shows.

"In particular," it continues,

"the procedure is extremely frustrating if students must make changes to their programs while registering. Program changes may be necessitated because course sections have been closed or staff in Part II of registration do not have sufficient knowledge of the student's background or the course requisites."

Comments from the registrar's office, faculties and departments indicated greater satisfaction with the present system.

In explaining the decision to shelve the proposal, associate registrar L.P. Morgan, chairman of the committee, said, "We were awfully anxious not just to go ahead and do something—but to plan something the user—the people—would want."

"The committee felt the route to take was to look at the problems we have now and improve upon the system we have."

The proposal was evaluated "in terms of money spent," A.L. Darling, assistant registrar concluded, "It doesn't take into account intangible things like the frustration people undergo which leaves them with a bad taste as to what university is like—you can't tell how this is going to affect the university."

tj





# Storm builds for year

*continued from p. 1*

Having returned from holidays only a few days before the dismissals became publicly known, Greenhill said that the only cuts of which he was aware were a number of administrative employees who were to be dismissed with the introduction of new office procedures at the service.

The university health service committee meets early next week to elect a chairman and it is expected that the recent reorganization of staff will be discussed.

Compounding the internal problems, students are for the first

time this year being asked to pay a \$10 fee entitling them to the use of the health service. A special "opt out" card is included in the registration packet for those students who choose not to subscribe to the service.

Greenhill commented, however, that "No doctor or nurse is going to say to a student 'did you opt-in or opt out?' If students don't come and fees cannot be generated, financially the service will not be viable."

Non-university funding of the service comes from fees paid by the

vote by the student body accompanied by a financial penalty for each participant if he votes in a particular manner, namely in favour of the continuance of the service."

"Apart from the questionable morality of such a vote," the letter continued, "the action itself denies the existence of the Joint Committee, negates its deliberations and dismisses its report before that report has even been prepared, never mind presented.

Cookson also noted that the rescission of the first motion of the Board had not removed the threat to the continuance of student health which was made explicit in the original resolution.

Only weeks ago the service received national attention and publicity as a model of the type of comprehensive community health care facility strongly supported by the Hastings report, the recommendations of which were recently released by the federal department of health and welfare.

Greenhill found it ironic that at a time when increased attention was being focused on community health care facilities like the university service and also when other major universities like Saskatchewan and Western Ontario are expanding their university health care centres, that the University of Alberta was making cuts.

Alberta Health Care Insurance Commission for the medical services provided by UHS doctors. Doctors at the service, unlike doctors in private practice, receive a sessional salary, with the extra fees-for-services being applied toward the health service's other types of care.

In addition to regular medical services, student health provides under the same roof psychiatric, gynecological, preventive dental, and occupational health care, an infirmary and a pharmacy.

It was the provision of services not covered under the Alberta Health Care Plan that drew fire of critics last year who felt that with the payment of health care costs by the insurance scheme student health had become redundant.

This led the Board of Governors in May to pass a resolution which imposed the \$10 fee and made the continuance of student health conditional on the participation of a "specified minimum percentage of eligible students." Later the Board rescinded that decision and replaced it with one that recommended "in principle" that the service operate on a "break even" basis and that the optional fee be charged with no reference to the effect non-participation of students might on the service's future.

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# U of A wary

Summer conferences marked the end of one organization of students' unions in Canada and perhaps the beginning of another.

The Alberta Association of Students, formed sixteen years ago to represent student groups at post-secondary schools in the province, officially disbanded in May.

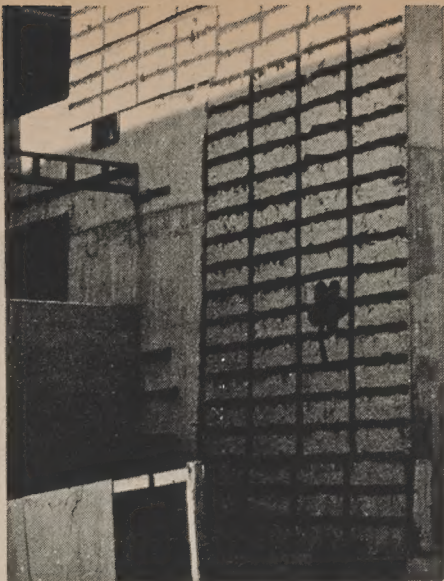
The deciding factor in its demise was a decision by the U of A Students' Union, largest member of the body, to withdraw its annual \$3,000 support from the group. The "ineffectiveness" of the AAS as a lobbying force was cited by the SU as the reason for its decision.

Last year's AAS president Tim Christian, U of A SU president in 1970-71, contended that while "it's nearly true that the AAS was not directly serving the U of A ... the argument used in the past to keep AAS together was the responsibility of larger schools to smaller ones since they have the students and budgets to carry on this sort of research and lobbying."

Alberta's confidence that it can better lobby for SU members' interests alone than as part of a larger body may also figure in the fate of a nation-wide organization which was proposed at a conference in Windsor, May 26-28.

"What I was asking myself," comments SU president Gerry Riskin, Alberta's delegate to the meetings, "was what was there in it for the University of Alberta? How could we benefit? What could we get out of it?"

He described the other student leaders at the meetings as "naive" in lobbying activities. tj



Bricks climb wall to cover flower on Chemistry II. See story on page 6.

## Summer-y: students' council

At the request of the Vietnam Action Committee, students' council passed a motion expressing its opinion on the Vietnam war: "Whereas the U.S. and its allies, particularly Canada have respectfully been condemned for waging and or complicity in waging of an imperialist war in Vietnam, on the North Vietnamese people, and whereas the U.S. and its allies are currently being condemned and; whereas as moral agents, we are committed to treat like cases alike; therefore, be it resolved, that the action of the Peoples Republic of China, U.S.S.R. and its allies in their complicity and supportive role in the promotion of the escalation of the imperialist war,

the victims of which are the North and South Vietnamese people, be condemned."

The motion was opposed by Gerry Riskin, president; Beth Kuhnke, secretary; Chris Bearchell and Mark Priegert arts reps and Judith Neiman, ed rep.

On the recommendation of the SUB policy board, council voted to require S.T.O.P. to vacate the rent-free office on the second floor of SUB which it has occupied for the past two years. According to Rob Spagins a change in the by-law concerning associate clubs makes S.T.O.P. ineligible for office space. There are 10 offices available and 150 SU clubs.

The office, which was vacated by S.T.O.P. at the beginning of August, is still empty. The organization has now found permanent quarters in the Anglican Synod building, 97Ave. and 107St.

On May 18, council submitted a brief explaining the SU's response to the provincial government's "Natural Resources Revenue Plan". The brief asserted that the students at the University opposed the plan because it was poorly conceived, "unweildly, unworkable, and administratively impractical". The brief was prepared by Rob Spragins, executive vice-president, son of the president of Syncrude Canada Ltd.

At the recommendation of speaker and special consultant to the executive, Steve Snyder, press release was issued to express the "concern and dismay" of the SU with the establishment of an Albertan branch of the KKK.

Strapped to a debt of about \$6.5 million incurred by the building of HUB, council has become alarmed by decreasing enrolment at the University. So, on the weekend of July

7, the SU hosted a conference of high school presidents to "analyze the reasons for the declining interest and thus declining enrollment at the university." Although 350 presidents were invited, only 35 attended.

Riskin also made a public statement expressing "concern" over the Bobby Hull-Team Canada controversy. He is presently waging a verbal war with Famous Players Theatre over their decision to discontinue "student's discounts." A reduced rate is provided for those under 18.

Apparently undismayed by the unenthusiastic response, Riskin hailed the delegates' presence as a token of their concern with "issues which are of paramount importance to you and your community" and declared that "no battle can be too great with such as you to help in the struggle." The presidents voted against forming a permanent organization.

Later in the summer, council authorized the publication of a new magazine to provide junior and senior high students and employers of university graduates with a "new view" of the U of A. Each issue of the publication, which will be called "A Second Look", will run to 100,000 copies.

Riskin publicly attacked the governments response to the Le Dain Commission as a waffle which may do nothing more than handicap the courts and foster organized crime. Recommending leniency towards drug users simply increases demand and encourages "professional pushers". If the government legalized pot, it could harvest new taxes and reclaim drug users which are now forced to function outside "a socially acceptable enviroment," Riskin argued.

cs

# Grad students, SU quarrel over fees

The Graduate Students' Association is encouraging its members to withhold their students' union fees as a protest against having to pay them at all. Grad students who do not wish to join the SU pay \$10 per year, \$6 to amortize SUB and \$4 for services and facilities.

Students' council charges that the grad students are trying to welch on their commitment to help build SUB and insists that the SU has no intention of parting with the \$20,000 which the grad students would contribute this year. SU president Gerry Riskin is confident that the Board of Governors, the body which actually levies Students' Union fees, will not allow the grad students to reneague because the university is the guarantor of the SU mortgages. The matter is to be discussed at the September meeting of the Board of Governors.

The G.S.A. argues that they have always made it clear that the SU couldn't count on them as a permanent source of income. In addition to the right to stop paying for SUB, the G.S.A. requests formal recognition of its equity, a commitment on the part of the SU to buy out that equity over a period of time and some control of the services offered by the SU for as long as they continue to pay fees.

The students' council

position is that grad students should continue to help pay for SUB and that they should not expect a refund of what they have already paid. However, Riskin said in an interview that he would agree to the formal recognition of the grad students' title to part of SUB. But, he said that recognition could not come into effect before the University transfers the title of SUB to the SU 25 years from now. Riskin has also offered grad students' a seat on students council.

The attempt to agree on details of a settlement is frustrated by the collapse of negotiations. According to Riskin, all the G.S.A. representatives except Peter Flynn, G.S.A. secretary, stormed out of the first meeting between the two groups, knocking over their chairs as they left, when it became evident that the SU wasn't willing to give up the \$10 fee. Later in the summer an article lampooning Rob Spragins, for his errors and lack of tact during the negotiations, was published in the G.S.A. newsletter.

If the G.S.A.'s show of anger and impatience has "disappointed" the SU, the grad students have been frustrated by the apparent ineptitude and procrastination of students' council. In a recent interview Flynn said, "The thing that really infuriates me is that four times Gerry Riskin has promised to come up with a counter proposal and four times he has failed to do so." During the summer students' council has been confused about whether or not the G.S.A. legally exists (it does), whether or not all grad students are automatically members of the SU (they're not) and whether or

not the G.S.A. - S.U. agreement is subject to review (apparently it is).

The trouble all began last spring when the G.S.A. decided that it wanted its own recreational center and could no longer afford to help pay for SUB. So on March 29, a letter was sent to the SU requesting a review of the fees. According to the G.S.A. the agreement between itself and the SU is subject to annual revision. Unfortunately, the agreement, made several years ago when the G.S.A. separated from the SU, was never formally recorded in a By-Law. The only record of its details is in letters and minutes of the time, none of which constitute a legal agreement.

In any case, the letter of March 29 was not acknowledged by students' council until the middle of May. According to Riskin, the request for the negotiation was not made until after the budget had been finalized by Don McKenzie's council. The new council merely ratified it. And, the reply to the G.S.A. request was delayed by the change in executive and by Riskin's law exams which occupied him until the middle of May.

When it finally did come, the reply merely stated that since the budget was set there could be no reconsideration of the fee. Convinced that their letter had arrived in time for consideration and angered by what they thought was an unreasonable delay on the part of council, the G.S.A. executive voted early in June to sever financial ties with the SU.

Students' council retaliated by cancelling its agreement to provide the G.S.A. an office for \$1 per year,

an arrangement, which under normal circumstances would have been reviewed on June 30. Council then offered them office space for \$100 per month, the same rent as is charged to the Summer Session Students' Union.

The G.S.A. executive branded this proposal, which represented a rent increase of \$3,599 a year, "patently ridiculous" and moved into new quarters in Campus Towers. On July 19, students' council made a new offer: the G.S.A. could have the use of Room 271 in SUB for \$50 per year, twice the rate charged for other SU offices. Most SUB offices are much smaller than the one offered to the G.S.A. and are shared by two groups.

In their reply to this offer, the G.S.A. implied that the office rental issue was dead and urged the SU Executive to prepare a proposal "regarding the question of the fees paid by graduate students to the Students' Union." Nonetheless, an article appeared in the Journal on August 10 under the headline "Graduate students step up rent battle with U council" which stated that the G.S.A. had been "evicted" from its office in SUB "after refusing to accept a council demand that it pay a monthly rental of \$100 per office."

The article quoted the G.S.A. newsletter as saying that "the graduate students are being 'ripped off' by greedy undergraduates." The newsletter complained that "graduate students will be paying \$500,000 for financing of the SUB over a 35-year period but have no say on how space is to be used."

cs



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# point

editorial

*This is the annual editorial on how de-humanizing the University of Alberta's registration procedure is.*

*But this year is different because this year we can do more than simply vent our impotent rage and have a few beers.*

*The advance registration proposal is an eminently sane alternative to the frantic chasing from building to building to building just in time to stand in yet another line while registration clerks leave for leisurely lunches, a situation which characterizes the present system.*

*Arguments in opposition to the plan were dealt with by the committees involved as though surmounting them were conquering Everest; they are in fact ant hills:*

1. The proposed system does not provide enough time to allow for advance planning of staff, section and book requirements by departments and faculties.

*A close relative of this argument is that 30-35% of each year's enrollment are first-year students who cannot even be admitted until departmental results are known in mid-summer.*

*One is tempted to suggest that ANY advance notice is better than none. Had the English department had even a few more days' notice of the disastrously malapportioned first-year courses introduced last year, surely necessary changes could have been made more easily.*

*As for first-year students, the point would be more cogent if that 30 or 35% unknown entity were to be uniformly distributed through all courses offered at the university. But given upper level prerequisites and rigid first-year programmes in many faculties, the courses affected by this factor could, with some application of intelligence, be fairly accurately forecast. And the implementation of the Worth Commission recommendation to scrap Grade 12 departmentals would completely eliminate the need to consider first-year students differently from any other pre-registrants.*

2. The proposal would cost too much to implement. Of the \$70,000 total estimated for initial implementation costs, \$58,000 is allocated for the financing of 48 man-months (4 men working a year each) for analyst and programmer time.

*This might be a reasonable expectation if Alberta were a pioneer in this field of computer programming. The survey of other Canadian universities made it clear that we are not at the frontiers of knowledge in this field. If Waterloo University, with equivalent computer facilities to those of the U of A, can adapt a programme first developed at Purdue University in the U S, surely the U of A need not invent the wheel from scratch.*

3. The proposed system will cost too much to maintain. Once again, the estimate presented to the committee of the additional cost per year of using this system is impressive: \$20,000. But in calculating the cost of the present system, planners have failed to add to their figures the value of the slave labour extorted from the 17,000 unorganized workers who make the present system go: the students.

*If we each demanded only minimum wage for the day of work we put in to get ourselves registered, the university would have to pay out an additional \$224,400. At that rate, \$20,000 is a bargain. Obviously we'll never collect, but that kind of calculation makes the "intangibles" which registrars so lament a little more tangible and in terms they understand: dollars and cents.*

4. "Freedom of choice" is denied under an advance registration system. *This argument will be most obviously ludicrous to those poor souls who are registering on Friday of this week, facing section after closed section of courses in which spaces were supposedly saved. They are, of course, free to choose from those sections still open.*

*But beyond the inequities inherent in any system, the claim that advance registrations remove freedom of choice is patently false. Even without the addition of new sections which was still planned, Western Ontario had assigned 95% of their registrants into their first-choice courses; the rate for optional sections was 75-80%; again without planned section additions. Of 3,300 advance registrants in Sir George Williams' day programme, 3,100 had been assigned all the courses they had requested.*

*It's a cold, hard fact that planners never have to register. Their band-aid work is hardly going to be effective if they don't even know where it hurts.*

*The GFC has given students time to comment on the pre-registration report. Any later attempt to reconsider the matter will require the inevitable two-year study, and we will all have endured our three or four required fall nightmares before anything can be done. Now, while the mind-mangling experience is fresh in your mind, phone your representative on the GFC registration procedures committee Charlie Starko (432-7072), or any member of the SU executive (432-4236), and voice your support for pre-registration.*

*One can hope that this is the last annual editorial on registration procedures.*

Terri Jackson

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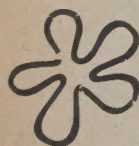


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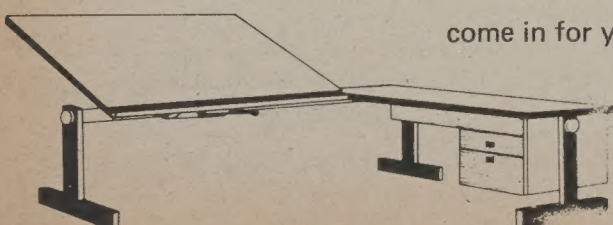
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# Course Guide's 'objectivity' masks vacuity

The 1972 Course Guide of the University of Alberta Students' Union is worse than useless: it is pernicious, and to judge by its Introduction, its compilers don't care or Don't know that it is. Its fundamental assumption, an assumption that has governed the Course Guide for a couple of years now, is that students can best choose which classes or instructors to take by studying a statistical summary of what students are willing to say in response to a series of banal statements and questions. It follows that the Course Guide cannot be based on the testimony of the most reliable witnesses. Those who know best about the quality of a course are the most intelligent students who have sat in it; those who know best are neither the instructor himself nor the average students, who half-heartedly fulfill the requirements of a course.

The fancy method this year's Guide, touted by its compilers as "an innovation in this type of statistical analysis," is merely the accumulation of cliches. We are told in the Introduction that the data from thousands of "objective" questionnaires were supplied to a computer along with 350 "verbalized statements"; "if the data meet the criteria assigned to each individual statement, that statement was printed out." In last year's Guide the data were left as percentages, but this year they have been disguised as English prose. The 350 "verbalized statements" are in fact 350 stereotypes or cliches that are judged to be sufficient to account for the myriad differences even ordinary students can perceive among their different classes and instructors.

But more important, the stereotypes printed out as paragraphs are meaningless or contradictory or ludicrous. Here is a sentence whose meaning I find hard to penetrate: "While opinions varied, feedback was generally not considered impersonal." Then ponder the contradictions in this series of judgements from the account of one unfortunate professor's class: . . . the instructor did not use class time effectively . . . the instructor stimulated thought well and communicated information well. . . . students hardly ever thought about and discussed material from the course."

## head on

### Statistical analysis assures accuracy

Student evaluations of University courses is not, as many think, a recent development in the College Community. Such instruments first appeared in the early 1920's when Columbia and Harvard Universities initiated a type of course evaluation scheme. By 1951, the number of American Universities and Colleges participating in some sort of course evaluation reached 40% of the total number of such institutions (Meuller,1951) and I would expect that today nearly every major College and University on the continent has had some experience, both good and bad, with some type of evaluation project.

It must be freely admitted by all who have had any experience with student course evaluations that they have many limitations. Those who would be critical of such procedures are well aware of the inadequacies, but they fail to admit that such information can have real value to both students and faculty alike, if it is properly and intelligently used. What must be realized, in the first instance, is that the results from such a study do not represent an objective ideal, nor even a construct of a good teacher which necessarily coincides with professional standards.

We have, instead, a reflecting device in which the instructor sees his image as drawn by his students, with the danger of distortion reduced to a statistical minimum by the size of the return. The question, therefore, of validity of student judgements (the main criticism which course evaluations receive) is irrelevant.

What the guide measures is not teaching, but what students feel about teaching which is, and must remain, one of several important factors in the teaching-learning process. What we can learn is not what good teaching is or is not, but what kinds of standards students impose upon those who purport to teach. These

There is probably a quarter-hour's good fun reading aloud sentences from the Guide. The fun derives from the odd variations in the cliches with which one class after another is described. But our laughter points to something seriously wrong with the assumptions of the Guide. It assumes that all courses are essentially the same and can be honestly evaluated by a series of standard questions. The editors seem indeed to have tried very hard to avoid mentioning anything that would distinguish one class or instructor from another. I could not possibly say which of the six men teaching Political Science 200 I would choose to study with if I had to decide from the summaries of student opinion in this Guide.

The crucial – and pernicious – failure of this Guide follows from its being based on a false notion of students' abilities and rights. A "Course Guide" should be a students' guide to the faculty. It should be in no way statistical; statistics in these cases are the cover for cowardice. It should be the summary of the most informed judgement about the intelligence and ability of named individual instructors, stressing how well they handle the actual intellectual material of their courses. Students should learn – and the proper course guide should help them learn – to choose, if at all possible, not courses, but teachers. To take a course on a subject that interests you from a man or woman who drives you to desperate boredom is very probably to turn you against your own former interest, whereas to take a course from an interesting person about something you know nothing is to expand your interests and your understanding. Students learn which courses to take by assessing the comments they hear from one another in private. A good course guide makes available to our whole community the percolated results of that opinion. The present Course Guide is pernicious because it is dull with disguised statistics, it takes no risks, it makes no judgments, it is anti-intellectual in an institution that stands for the mind.

Christopher Drummond,  
English professor

It took 75,000 questionnaires, over 58,000 data cards, 460,000 words of description, eleven part-time workers and \$1.50 a copy to make this year's Course Guide. Was it worth the trouble?

standards may, of course, vary widely from those which the instructor would establish to judge himself or his colleagues. Nevertheless, it is still important for the teacher to know in what mold he is cast by his students, and for the students to know the dimensions of this mold in terms of the opinions of his peers, for teaching is not an abstract but a confrontation on a personal level between student and instructor.

One of the aims of course evaluations on this campus is "to provide information for students so that they can make a more intelligent choice of courses," the implication being to steer students away from lousy instructors. While this may be a worthwhile aim, it is not a very practical one since for many students this choice simply does not exist, particularly in rigidly structured programmes.

There are, however, much more important aims which have, over the last few years, taken precedence. One of these concerns the effects that student evaluations can have on teaching effectiveness in the classroom. By providing instructors with feedback of student opinion, course evaluations can have effects limited only by the honesty of the instructor in accepting constructive criticism.

A third objective, which is just as important but not nearly so apparent, is the effect which course evaluations can have upon the awareness of both students and faculty on the quality of teaching at the University.

Elizabeth Atkinson,  
Course Guide editor

forum5

## counter point

staff comment

### Every kid's a buck

*A friend of mine spent one summer working as a secretary for one of the higher ups in a paper-making company. After she had endeared herself to him by leaving his wife dangling at the end of a dead telephone line and by losing one of his most precious files, he finally broke down and asked her the inevitable question. "What's with young people today, any way?" So she made the inevitable reply. "Well, it's difficult to generalize, but I think that many of us are really worried about conservation and pollution control."*

*That bandwagon had apparently passed by his door before; he'd practiced getting on and off as quickly as possible without skinning his shins. He explained how deeply he was concerned about conserving the forests, how his company methodically replaced the trees that it used, how upset they all were by the foul-smelling gases excreted by their factories. He effused about his "concern" for a good five minutes. "But you know," he said "there's another side to the problem which you people won't understand till you are in business for yourselves." And, of course, he wasn't just changing tune-- he had picked up a brand new piccolo, for he continued, "It's economics, you know. When you come right down to it, Every tree's a buck."*

*Sometimes we are tempted to think of the University as a place where people have the leisure and the interest to make fully "human" judgements, a place where few people will be satisfied with evaluation simply in terms of dollars and cents. But it is exactly the commercial mentality which is manifested by student council's decision to publish a promotional magazine to lure more high school graduates into the university.*

*The reasoning behind the decision is quite obvious. The SU, still paying off the mortgage on SUB, must now start paying \$50,000 a month on that new monument to our corporate importance, HUB. If full time enrollment continues to decline, the SU's revenue will eventually decrease to the point that it can no longer make these payments. Obviously, SU must do its bit to keep "production" up.*

*That's where the magazine, to be called "A Second Look", comes in. It's clearly designed to plaster over the cracks in the University. Yes, Virginia, this really is center of light and reason. Truth is sitting over there on the shelves of Cameron library. And of course, you won't have any trouble getting a job-- at least, not unless you're a real dummy. As Riskin (the only politician I've ever heard of who combines Richard Nixon's smoothness with Spiro Agnew's mastery of the cliché) put it to the high school presidents this summer, this campus "must always stand for freedom of expression, must always be a home for the idealist, and must always be responsive to the voice of the young."*

*Council doesn't seem to have considered the possibility that the University might have earned a bad image, that perhaps there are some improvements which should be made. Neither has council realized that declining enrollments might be a good sign. University education is not Morrison's pill. It is not designed to satisfy everyone's needs, nor should it be.*

*Obviously, I am judging the magazine before it has even appeared, but the philosophy behind a student promotional magazine is at best compacent and at worst deceitful. Council should take a second look at their decision.*

Candace Savage

Letters to the editor on any topic are welcome, but they must be signed. Keep them short (about 200 words) unless you wish to make a complex argument. Letters should not exceed 800 words.

The Gateway is published bi-weekly by the students of the University of Alberta. Contents are the responsibility of the editor. Opinions are those of the person who expressed them. Staff this issue included Terri Jackson, editor; Beth Nilsen; Joan Robertson, typesetter; Arthur Savage; Candace Savage, news editor; Michael Schmidt, production manager and thousands of you whom we nurtured in our hearts.



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The whooping crane may be endangered but his mechanical relative seems to have found a haven on the U of A campus. Despite declining full time enrollment, half a dozen buildings will be finished and two new ones begun by this time next year.

Late in April, the University planning committee assigned top priority to two new projects. Agriculture II, which will stand in what is now the SUB parking lot, and Business Administration, which will be directly south of Tory.

According to a chart in Diamond and Myers' long range plan for campus development, the new facilities will assure these two faculties surplus space even if full time enrolment should climb to 30,000. However, this calculation was based on the assumption that both departments would retain the space they presently occupy.

In fact, the present Ag building will be occupied by geology and the commerce department's space in CAB will probably be used by mathematics or administration. The enrolment in both faculties is increasing.

Together, the new buildings will cost approximately seven million

dollars. Both are still in early planning stages.

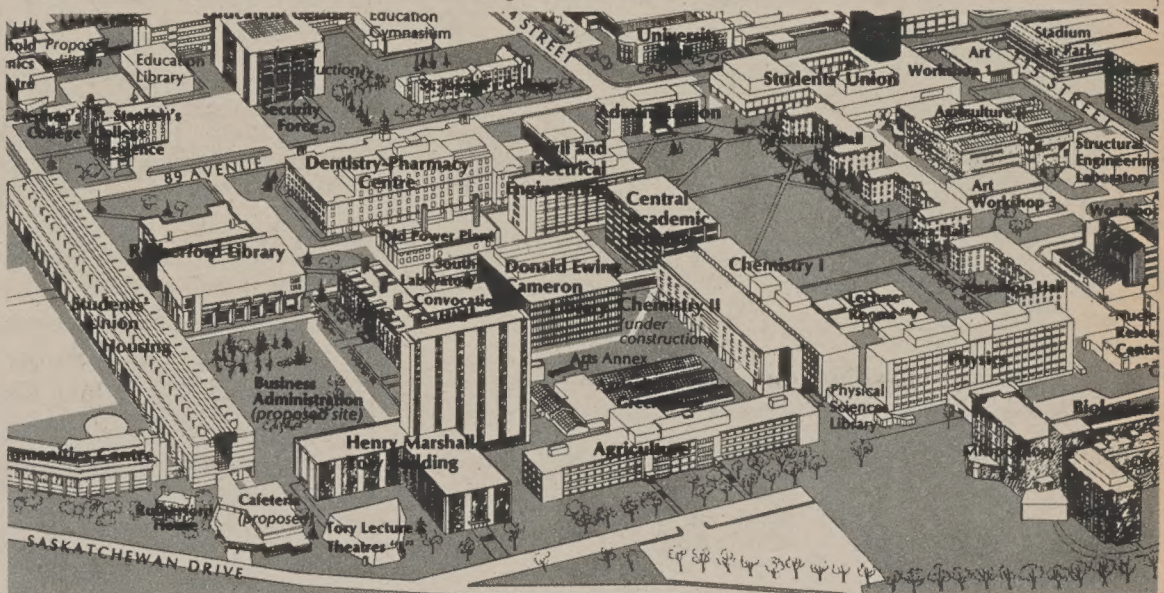
In his address to spring convocation, W. D. Neal, vice president (planning and development), explained "that the facilities being constructed now are providing space to catch up on our needs for students who are already in the University. During some of the years of the 1960's we were expanding by over two thousand students per year and this requires a great deal of space." According to Neal this argument is especially true in the case of agriculture which is presently in "sub standard" space in Athabasca Hall and temporary labs.

A. T. Robertson, chief project officer with the campus development office, estimates that construction on the new Ag building might beg next spring. Commerce is slated for next summer.

Robertson predicted that "the major disruptive work"—the construction of the network of service tunnels has been completed. In the future, tunnelling should be restricted

to establishing connections with new buildings. Robertson also suggested that there will be a "drastic tapering off" after the "frantic" construction of the past several years. Of the buildings presently under construction, Engineering Centre II and Humanities should be completed early this fall, HUB and the addition to Rutherford library will be finished in December and Chemistry II and Fine Arts in January or February of next year. The new Education tower probably will not be ready for occupancy until next fall.

The space made available in the Arts building by the opening of Fine Arts will be absorbed by Art and Design. Assiniboia Hall, which presently houses the English department, will be used as office space for grad students. This will free more houses in Garneau for demolition. The fate of the three old residence halls is undecided.



## New direct buses

The E.T.S. has come one block farther north into the centre of campus but it may not stay there long. The change, which took two years to negotiate, will be reversed if the buses are impeded by pedestrian traffic crossing 89 Avenue between the med building and education.

The attempt to improve service to the campus is the result of a commuting survey made two years ago. The study revealed that of the 15,000 people who come to the university each day, 7500 use the bus.

Except for the U4 and U5, the bus routes improved by the new turn-around all serve the south side. But the north side will not be neglected if city council approves a proposal to be submitted at its September 11 meeting. The changes suggested by the E.T.S. will provide three new direct routes from the north to the University.

A new route travelling across the Groat Bridge would make the Oliver subdivision ten minutes from the university by bus. This route would go north to NAIT and Northgate Shopping Centre.

The proposal also calls for the extension of the N12 and

what are now N4 and N4 to the University. All these routes now end downtown. The improved service would cost the city \$300,000 a year.

If the proposal is accepted before September 15, the new routes can be organized by November. Otherwise no changes will be made until February. There are no plans for other route changes or for increasing the frequency of service on any route. A review of service in the southwest part of the city will be made later this year.

In November, the city will hold public transportation hearings to discuss the E.T.S. position paper which calls for increased spending on public transport and what amounts to a preparation for rapid transit. A university proposal to make 114St, 98 Ave. and 112 St. into a one-way loop was tabled until after the hearings because of opposition made by Windsor Park residents.

A move to discontinue University bus passes was foiled during the summer by the intervention of students' council.

The closing of 89 Ave. between the phys ed building and SUB, a change made at the same time as the buses started

coming farther north, is part of a long-range plan to prevent through traffic from travelling across the campus. The street has been painted as a "temporary" measure until the issue of SUB expansion has been settled.

Eventually, Saskatchewan Drive, along the north edge of the campus, will meet the same fate if all goes as planned. The city has agreed not to upgrade the route so that its use will decrease until it can be closed.

The attempt to exclude cars from the centre of campus has also extended to parking. The Diamond and Myers plan for the campus calls for fourteen peripheral car parks to replace the surface lots removed from the centre of campus. That would provide parking for a car for every two students if there were an enrollment of 30,000.

At present, there are 2,500 parking places for about 18,000 students, a ratio of one car to seven students. About 2700 permits are issued. In assigning the places preference is given to those who live a long way from the campus in an area with poor bus service and to those who participate in car pools





Composer, teacher, performer, flautist Paul Horn will perform in Dinwoodie on Wednesday beginning at 8 p.m. According to a report from Vancouver where Horn appeared in February, he "can make the flute sing, do handsprings and walk on air."

## Horton and Horn F.I.W. Stars

This Thursday, Edmonton blues fans will have the chance to hear Walter "Shakey" Horton, one of the finest living "blues harp" artists.

After the concert, Shakey will remain in Edmonton to record an album with Hot Cottage as his backup group. Much of the material to be recorded will be premiered at the concert. This recording, to be produced by Holger Petersen, will be the first ever made by a black bluesman with a Canadian blues group in Canada.

Shakey Horton, now in his mid-fifties, began recording in 1929 with the "Memphis Jug Band". Since then, he has recorded with virtually every black bluesman of any note, ranging from Muddy Waters to Big Mama Thornton.

The "blues harp" is more commonly known as the harmonica or plain old mouth organ but some musicians prefer to use the more unusual name to emphasize the capabilities of the instrument.

MONDAY - -dance with Hot Cottage in Dinwoodie Lounge, 9 to 12, \$1.00 at the door.

TUESDAY- FRIDAY - -music and market in the Quad from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. - -Soup Kitchen in RATT opens at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY - -country rock with "Sweet Grass", 9 p.m. at RATT, 75 cents, \$1.00 at the door. - -dance with Willie and the Walkers at 9 p.m. in CAB, \$1.50

WEDNESDAY - -Speak-in, speak-out on "Labour problems in Quebec", May be postponed until next week. - -Paul Horn, flautist of Taj Mahal, in concert in Dinwoodie, \$1.50 advance, \$2.00 at the door. -folk music with Lorraine Stephanson and J. R. Baker at 9 p.m. in RATT, 75 cents advance, \$1.00 at the door.

THURSDAY - -Edmonton Experimental Theatre brings their cart to the Quad at 2 p.m. -fashion show with "The Privilege" in SUB theatre.

--Larry Reese at RATT at 9 p.m., 75 cents advance, \$1.00 at the door. - -concert and dance with Shakey Horton and Hot Cottage in Dinwoodie at 9 p.m., \$1.50 advance, \$2.00 at the door.

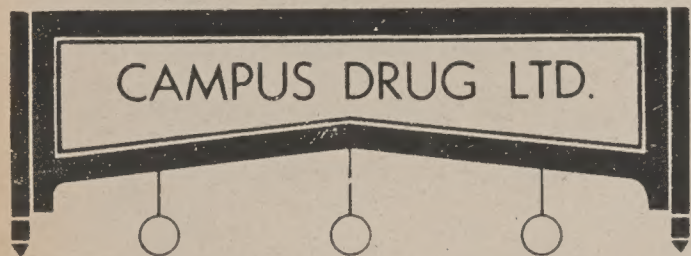
FRIDAY - -photo display in SUB theatre lobby. - -Beer social in Dinwoodie from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., \$1.00 at the door. - -Steer 'n' Stomp at 8 p.m. in front of SUB, old time dance with free food. - -Hot Cottage at RATT at 9 p.m.

SATURDAY - -Joe College dance at 8 in the ice arena with Captain Fly and Hot Cottage, \$1.00 at the door. - -Russ Thornberry at RATT at 9 p.m.

SUNDAY - -Jazz jam with Moe Price, Wes Henderson, and Marv Lewis at RATT beginning at 9 p.m.

SIMS Introductory Lectures Wednesday noon, Thursday at 8 p.m. in TLB2; Wednesday at 8 p.m. in grad lounge in Tory.

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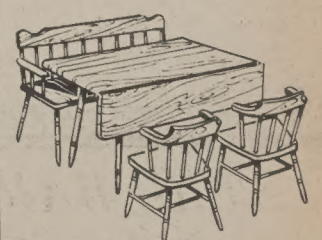
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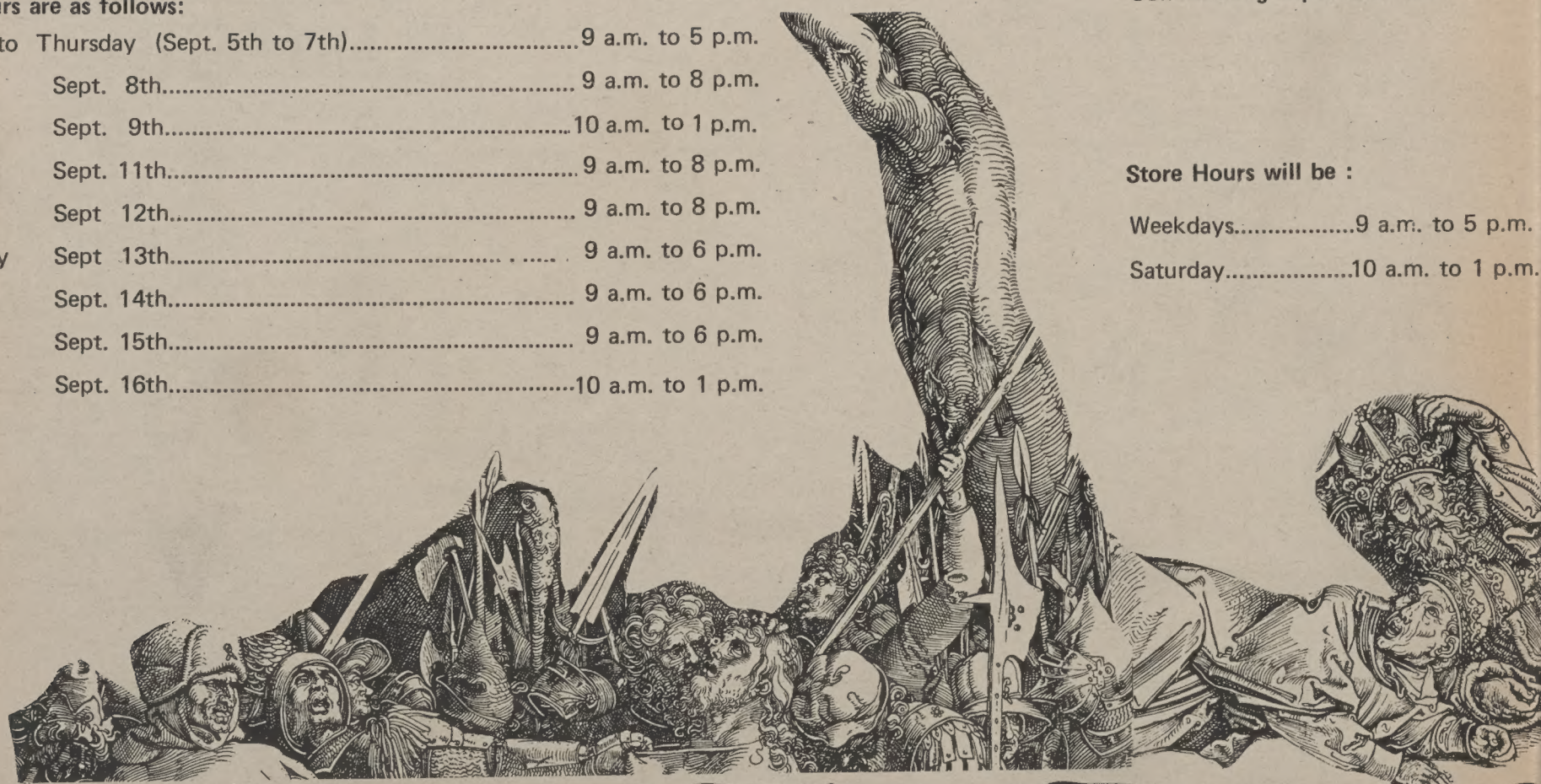
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